

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: wdzeares@ix.netcom.com (W. Dennis Zeares)
Subject: [8336] 30M antenna ideas needed
Message-ID: <199605080154.SAA06927@dfw-ix11.ix.netcom.com>

At first I thought I would like 30M... used the indoor 20M dipole with an MFJ 948 and made three quick contacts-- all early in the afternoon. but once the band gets open I am not able to make any contacts... I just call CQ and call other stations for hours with no luck... so I bought a 30M hamstick and put it on the balcony railing in place of the 40M stick which worked very well... and still no luck on 30M... so I would like opinions on using a long wire... it would go through the apt. for about 15 feet and then I could go another 75 or 80 feet outside, but it would be lower than the indoor ant..it would slop down to the covered parking area...

would the long wire work better than the indoor ant with the tuner or the hamstick cut for 30M??? or I could use 300 ohm line and feed the 75 or 80 feet at the end... any ideas would be appreciated. thanks

72/73

Dennis K3ETS Dallas, home of K5FO
K3ETS TMPS 1996 Qs=003 States=003 Confirmed=000 DX=00

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Dave Fifield <fifield@lan.nsc.com>
Subject: [8334] 30m Spam
Message-ID: <31900643.4F74@lan.nsc.com>

Man: Morning.

Waitress: Morning.

M: Well, what you got?

W: Well, there's egg and bacon; egg, sausage and bacon; egg and 30m; egg, bacon and 30m; egg, bacon, sausage and 30m; 30m, bacon, sausage and 30m; 30m, egg, 30m, 30m, bacon and 30m; 30m, sausage, 30m, 30m, 30m, bacon, 30m, tomato and 30m; 30m, 30m, 30m, egg and 30m; (vikings start singing in background) 30m, 30m, 30m, 30m, 30m, baked beans, 30m, 30m, 30m and 30m.

Vikings: Spam, 30m , 30m, 30m, lovely 30m, lovely 30m.

W (cont): or lobster thermador ecrovetts with a bournaise sauce, served in the purple salm manner with chalots and aubergines, garnashed with truffle pate, brandy, a fried egg on top and 30m.

Wife: Have you got anything without 30m?

Waitress: Well, there's 30m, egg, sausage and 30m. That's not got much 30m in it.

Wi: I don't want any 30m!

M: Why can't she have egg, bacon, 30m and sausage?

Wi: That's got 30m in it.

M: It hasn't got as much 30m in it as 30m, egg, sausage and 30m has it?
 Wi: (over vikings starting again) Could you do me egg, bacon, 30m and
 sausage without the 30m then?
 Wa: Ech!
 Wi: What do you mean ech! I don't like 30m!
 V: Lovely 30m, wonderful 30m...etc
 Wa: Shut up! Shut up! Shut up! Bloody vikings. You can't have egg, bacon
 30m and sausage without the 30m.
 Wi: I don't like 30m!
 M: Shush dear, don't cause a fuss. I'll have your 30m. I love it. I'm
 having 30m, 30m, 30m, 30m, 30m, 30m, 30m, 30m, baked beans, 30m,
 30m, 30m and 30m. (starts vikings off again)
 V: Lovely 30m, wonderful 30m...etc
 Wa: Shut up! Baked beans are off.
 M: Well, can I have her 30m instead of the baked beans?
 Wa: You mean 30m, 30m, 30m, 30m, 30m, 30m, 30m, 30m, 30m,
 30m, 30m, and 30m?
 V: Lovely 30m, wonderful 30m...etc...30m, 30m, 30m! (in harmony).....
 --

Couldn't resist it, sorry...lighten up guys!

I'd love to own a rig that can do 30m CW so I can get in on all the action!
 I'll just have to build one I suppose...

Dave Fifield

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|--      KQ6FR      --|
--||      QRP-L  #92      ||--
|--      Norcal #1486      --|
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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
 From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
 Subject: [8287] Alias problems
 Message-ID: <960507081324.24a0f625@carib.vf.mmc.com>

Gang,

Just a short note here. I've been having some problems with my computer
 system here. It inadvertently sends mail addressed to the nj-qrp reflector to
 qrp-l. It sometimes confuses "@njqrp" with "@qrpl". Guess I gotta stop using
 aliases and type the address in manually.

Sorry about the extra bandwidth. Just use your <delete> key!

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@oakland.edu>
Subject: [8309] ANNOUNCE: Dayton Frequencies for QRP-L
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960507101224.5054A-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

Subject: ANNOUNCE: QRP 2m Freq ??

CQC@aol.com writes
>146.445 simplex. Great frequency choice, Dave!
>Is this the 'official' qrp gang freq ???

Boy I'm sorry I waited so long! I was going to post this earlier and I see somebody got the drop on ol' ZjL for once.

Ok. Here is a Dayton clue.

2M FM is virtually useless. Don't EVEN try to debate me on this, if you've been there once, you know it.

So how do you work around it?

Well, first of all, you have to be on UHF. Sorry guys, but that's the fact of life. The UHF signals get out of the arena MUCH better, and there is FAR less QRM and intermod up there.

Secondly, you run full TONE SQUELCH. That's where you set your wiz-bang HT up so that it only opens the squelch up for signals transmitting one of the more obscure "PL" tones. I.E., you don't use 100hz on 2M and you don't use 107.2 on 440.

Sadly, these scheme leaves a LOT of folks in the outs, as not everyone has an full featured HT. I *personally* would love to be able to hook up with QRP-L guys hanging around the beer tent, just so I could tell them how much, "I love you, man."

I WAS going to propose 146.49 <==== "49" get it? for the 2m freq, understanding that it IS a VERY common 2M simplex freq... but (trust me) at Dayton *ALL* 2M simplex freqs are popular, going 15Khz either way doesn't really help as it's the IMD that kills you.

For UHF, I'd thought of using 446.49 SIMPLEX - that's not a "standard" UHF simplex freq, but a LOT of "standards" get glossed over that

weekend.

I'll also go out on a limb and suggest a tone squelch freq of 123Hz for BOTH frequencies.

So there's my proposal for the group (please KEEP this thread ONLY on Dayton-L even though it went to BOTH lists!!!)

2M 146.49 123Hz PL
70cm 446.49 123Hz PL

Easy to remember, EZ to use.

73! =paul= wb8zjl

p.s. Is anyone just dragging along a repeater? :-)

p.s.s. Been there, done that too! Even had the repeater "on" while driving through OHIO, that was a hoot.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Nick Franco <kf2ph@bnl.gov>
Subject: [8311] BAZOOKA's
Message-ID: <318F723F.29F9@bnl.gov>

>

> To build you break the shield at the center and feed it with coax.
> Typical lengths as follows. Always trim to you operating frequency.

>

> 3750 khz Total Length 118.08'
> Coax center 87.65'
> Twin Lead ends 15.22' each

>

> 7150 khz Total Length 61.93'
> Coax center 45.41'
> Twin Lead ends 8.26' each

>

> This antenna like the g5rv will have many say it does not work.. Lot
> of myth about it's origin. Try it , you might like it. Nice low
> SWR across the 80 meter band.

>

> de stan ak0b

> Stan mentioned these antennas. I've built and used them on 40M with

great success. I didn't use the twin lead ends though. You can just short the braid to the center conductor at the points in Stan's chart above and continue the coax to the end where it is shorted again. Feed the braid only at the center point and yer off -.-. --.-

I found them to be nicely broad banded, easy to make, and made many contacts with them. If you have a large supply of coax on hand, give it a try. I fed mine with coax also. They don't tune well on multiple bands though, if I remember correctly. Obviously you can work 15M on the 40M antenna like a normal dipole.

72

Nick

KF2PH Tmps 1996 Qs=11 States=5 Confirmed=0 DX=2

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Nicholas J. Franco <>> BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY
Sr. Systems Specialist RHIC Project - Building 1005 - Room 201
Tel: (516) 344-5467 Fax: (516) 344-3674 UPTON, N.Y. 11973-5000
Email: kf2ph@bnl.gov <http://www.rhichome.bnl.gov/People/franco>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Doug Hendricks <ki6ds@telis.org>
Subject: [8282] Dayton Wx Forecast
Message-ID: <318EF361.42B5@telis.org>

Anybody got a weather report for Dayton for the Hamvention? I am interested as I don't subscribe to Dayton-L, and I am going to attend. I need this information to plan on the clothes I need to take. CU
There! 72, Doug, KI6DS

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: John Mckee <jmckee@rfmd.com>
Subject: [8289] folded dipoles from 300 ohm twin lead
Message-ID: <199605071240.IAA52257@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Gang,

Does anyone out there use a folded dipole made from 300 ohm twin lead? Am I correct to shorten the dipole length by the velocity factor of the twin lead? Also, I have seen descriptions of folded dipoles with

extra wire pig tails on the ends to extend to antenna back to the full length.

Is this necessary? Is this type of antenna sensitive to detuning from nearby objects like house wiring or metal gutters?

Thanks and 72,
John WB40FT

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: David Werner <aa9ol@execpc.com>
Subject: [8317] FS: Linear Amp for QRP rigs...
Message-ID: <318F831B.CDC@execpc.com>

For Sale: Yaesu FL-110 Solid State 100W Linear Amplifier

This amp was designed to be used with a 10 watt or less transmitter. It has built in PTT line (+ or -) based switching, switchable (160-10 meter) harmonic filtering and SWR protection.

Perfect for use with any QRP rig that has a PTT (or Mute) Output line. Though Yaesu intended it to be paired with their FT301S QRP (OK... 10 Watt :) rig.

10 Watts in 100 out (5 in roughly 50 out)

\$135 (Shipped UPS ground in the Continental US)

Thanks,

Dave Werner

aa9ol@execpc.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Tarte Pierre <ptarte@arcadis.be>
Subject: [8330] helically wound vertical antenna for hf operation
Message-ID: <9605072306.AA18584@iris.arcadis.be>

Hello to all qrp friends,

I would want to achieve a vertical antenna coiled for the portable (helically-wound vertical antenna).

I read August 1992 in Practical Wireless, the article of W1FB who uses the

formula:

$$L(\text{wire antenne in feet})=516/F(\text{Mhz})$$

in order to calculate the length of the wire to coil.

I suppose that this formula is used when the antenna is ended, to the top, by a disk (capacitance hat) following this figure:

```
=====
      x
      x
      x
      x  helical vertical antenna
      x
      x

-----      ground
```

If is this antenna ended by a metal rod of 440 to 550 mm of length, which is the formula in order to calculate the length of the antenna wire ?

In this case then I adjust the length of this metal rode (placed to the top of the antenna) in order to obtain the resonance of the antenna ?

In you thanking beforehand, I address you all my 72/73.

Andre TARTE ON5UP/QRP G-QRP Nr 6524

E-mail: ptarte@arcadis.be

TARTE ANDRE (ON5UP/QRP) (G-QRP CLUB 6524)

RUE DU TIGE,37,DREHANCE

B-5500-DINANT-BELGIUM

FAX:082/222832

E-MAIL :ptart@arcadis.be

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996

From: Robspark@aol.com

Subject: [8301] House building and coax

Message-ID: <960507104910_529981073@emout13.mail.aol.com>

Hi Folks -

For the fellow who is currently building a house and wants ideas of what wires to run before the walls close up:

I found myself in this situation, too. So many choices to make that I could not make them all! What I finally did was to drill 1" holes in strategic headers in the attic and run heavy nylon cord through these holes and through

the walls to plastic outlet boxes in likely radio areas. These extra boxes were blanked off till needed. This has turned out to be one of the few smart things that I did when I built my house. I can now pull any kind of wire to and from the attic from my shack area.

Good luck!

Bob AB5ZD

P.S. Don' t forget to run a line to your bedroom! Nothing better than flipping on the OHR at night and copying code when you cannot sleep.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Art Searle <asearle@netusa.net>
Subject: [8299] Icom 706 - 250 Hz versus 500 Hz
Message-ID: <318F8842.6D36@netusa.net>

Subject: Re: Icom 706 - 250 vs 500 Hz

Hi Jim,

On 05/05/96 you wrote:

>I am about to own an ICOM
706.
>
>I would appreciate feedback on 250 vs 500 Hz. Are they too narrow at 250
>Hz?

I have owned several modern rigs with the capability of adding both 250 Hz and 500 Hz filters. I have found in direct comparison that 250 is too narrow to comfortably tune around. You might miss something good. It is great if you are going to stay put on one frequency and if all of the stations you work are rock steady. Remember, QRP rigs tend to drift a little. . . . You'll lose them.

72, de Art WU2K art.searle@asb.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: art.searle@asb.com
Subject: [8306] Icom 706 - 250 vs 500 Hz
Message-ID: <9605071108.0FNFM00@asb.com>

Subject: Re: Icom 706 - 250 vs 500 Hz

Hi Jim,

On 05/05/96 you wrote:

>I am about to own an ICOM 706.
>
>I would appreciate feedback on 250 vs 500 Hz. Are they too narrow at 250
>Hz?

I have owned several modern rigs with the capability of adding both 250 Hz and 500 Hz filters. I have found in direct comparison that 250 is too narrow to comfortably tune around. You might miss something good. It is great if you are going to stay put on one frequency and if all of the stations you work are rock steady. Remember, QRP rigs tend to drift a little. . . .
You'll lose them.

72, de Art WU2K art.searle@asb.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: "David E. Shelton" <deshe101@homer.louisville.edu>
Subject: [8339] Info about MFJ-971 QRP antenna tuner
Message-ID: <31903B5B.3D04@homer.louisville.edu>

Hello All,

I just ordered a MFJ 971 QRP antenna tuner and I am wondering if it is any good since it cost me \$85 and nothing else I have ever owned from MFJ has been worth the money it seems. I mean does the tuner work good for QRP applications and I will also be using it mobile because it is so small with my IC-706 to tune a ham stick while mobile.

Any feedback is greatly appreciated, TNX.

73/72,

--

David E. Shelton, RN, BSN		Amateur Radio Op, KE4FPS
University of Louisville,		ARCI #9079 FISTS #2103 QRP-L #142
School of Nursing		Accuracy Transcends Speed,
deshel01@homer.louisville.edu		Courtesy At All Times.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Thom <thom@li.net>
Subject: [8308] IRC Question
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960507110821.10672A-100000@linet01>

Hi and thanks in advance for your help.

Please accept my appology for this non-qrp related question, but it seems that this group has more accumulated knowledge on quite a bit of topics.

I recently sent, via US Post some information to a friend in the UK. He was kind enough to send me 4 IRC's to help defray my postage costs.

I've never been on the receiveing end of one of these, and was wondering what value i should expect from the Post Office. The reason I ask this is that when I went to the P.O. yesterday (without the IRC's in hand) and asked them, I was told that each ITC is worth \$.32

When I read the back of the IRC it says the following:

" This coupon is echangeable in country of the Universal Postal Union for one or more postage stamps representing the minimum postage for a priority item or an unregistered letter sent by air to a foreign country"

This sound like more \$.32 to me...Anyway, if you've had experience inthis area, I'd appreciate your help.

Tom Mc Culloch
WB2QDG
thom@li.net

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: David Johnson <djohnson@acpub.duke.edu>
Subject: [8310] KnightLite Round Table Report
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960507114111.21721A-100000@bio3.acpub.duke.edu>

Gang:

Here is the KnightLite Round Table Report for Sunday May 5
(May 6 UTC 0200). There were fewer brave souls that I could
hear, due to rising noise levels on 80m.

All are invited to join in the net at 0200 UTC Monday (that's 10pm
eastern time Sunday) on 3710 kHz, for some morse magic!
The conditions will test our mettle! Folks help out with
relays and this is great. Net control sends at a moderate speed
(approximately 10 wpm) and will answer slower to match the speed
of check-ins, so don't be bashful. When you hear QNI just drop
in a couple letters or your whole call to get the attention of
the net control station (ncs).

Here is the list from this past Sunday:

WA4NID	ncs, 5 W
N3GO	339
KC4URI	589
AA3MD	589, 1 W, Craig in Washington, DC
N1QQV	229
AE4IC	449
WJ9B	479, loop ant, 5 W
KC4EWT	339, 5 W

Thanks to all the Knights and "friends of the Knights" for
joining in and making the Round Table a success.

CUL,

Dave

David W. Johnson, Ph.D.	QRP ARCI 6546
Amateur Radio Extra WA4NID	G-QRP 4864
email: djohnson@acpub.duke.edu	NorCal 355
packet: WA4NID@KB4WGA.#DUR.NC.USA.NOAM	TSRAC 3482

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [8323] Last call for badges

Message-ID: <960507160523_289107782@emout09.mail.aol.com>

Forgive the bandwidth, QRP-Lers, but this is the last call for Dayton QRP-L badges, and I thought you wouldn't mind one last message--last year you had to put up with dozens!

For those who have missed the announcements on Dayton-L, ID badges for Dayton-going QRP-L subscribers will be available for pick up at the at the hospitality booth at the Days Inn S. and during convention hours at theG-QRP booth, courtesy our friends from across the pond. Email me by tomorrow if you want one. List closes Weds, 5/7/96.

72, Preston WJ2V

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: "Brian.Buydens@usask.ca" <buydens@duke.usask.ca>
Subject: [8338] More antenna questions
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.93.960507201320.14599A-1000000@duke.usask.ca>

First of all, thanks for all the information about the windom. I realize the antenna in QST is not a windom but rather an off-center dipole.

I have been preparing to take my advanced exam, and also looking for an antenna form my 40-9er and I have a few more questions to ask:

Q. In the book I am studying from it says that the area of the antenna where the most propogation occurs is where the current is greatest. With a 1/4 wave vertical this point seems to be right near the ground. It would seem to me that if we could get this point higher then we would get better propagation. Thus the dipole should out-perform the vertical. Is this true.

Q. I was reading the book "Easy Up Antennas" and it talks about center loaded, end loaded, helical and zig-zag verticals. I am thinking about building one of these since it would only require one "tower" (and thereby be cheaper than a dipole which would require two. Another idea that comes to mind is a "loaded" dipole. Perhaps if a 1/4 wave at 40m could be packed into 5 ft. the whole dipole would fit on a 10 ft. piece of pvc pipe. Has anyone tried this? What kind of results did you get?

I hope you don't mind me asking so many antenna questions. They say that for DX with QRP the antenna is everything, so I thought I would consult the experts ;-)

+-----+
| Brian Buydens, Computing Services, University of Saskatchewan |

| email: Brian.Buydens@usask.ca |
| VE5RDV |

+-----+
| Albert Einstein, when asked to describe radio, replied: "You see, wire |
| telegraph is a kind of a very, very long cat. You pull his tail in New |
| York and his head is meowing in Los Angeles. Do you understand this? |
| And radio operates exactly the same way: you send signals here, they |
| receive them there. The only difference is that there is no cat." |
+-----+

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [8341] More digital QRP experiences (long)
Message-ID: <960507232301_530524240@emout08.mail.aol.com>

I have seen posts on the use of Pactor and Pactor-2, and thought I'd add my comments.

Several years ago, I left my packet gateway (then parked on 18.105 MHz) at low power. The radio was a QRP-modified IC-735; 100 watts full power and 3 watts low power. After some QRP-CW contacts, I'd forgotten to set the power back to full for the gateway users. The gateway continued for three weeks in that state- only one user noted the signal was weaker than normal and 'had I changed antennas'? Packet will also work at QRP powers.

Two years ago, I was experimenting with mobile digital (local groundwave) communications on 160 meters. The fixed station used an IC-735, horizontal wire antenna and KAM. The mobile used the same setup along with an AH-2 automatic antenna coupler and "Mobile-Mark" 160 meter helical whip. I tried packet, pactor, gtor and even amtor between my moving mobile and the fixed station. I frequently reduced the power at one and both ends prior to driving the same route of up to 12 miles from the fixed station. I found that while all modes worked, gtor worked best (best throughput) with pactor a close runner-up. Packet worked, but fell behind gtor and pactor due to retries on noisy 160 meters on summer days. Amtor was poor. Even 160 meters can be used for digital communications at low power, and would be a good band for "local" groundwave and NVIS communications.

Seven years ago, I was experimenting with Dave Curry (WD4PLI) on the 160-190 Khz "LowFER" band (1 watt DC input and a 50-foot antenna limit). I was able to copy PLI's RTTY, amtor and packet signals on my receiving setup 15 miles away. I did not have transmit capability on the 160-190 Khz band, but I can imagine how well the band would work with packet nodes for automatic store-and-forward communications using packet. The packet beacons and CWid in a TNC (such as a KAM) would also provide the 24-hour propagation and

antenna tests 160-190 Khz "QRP'ers" are so interested in. Not amateur radio, but QRP digital.

Modes such as pactor and gtor (Gtor is a Kantronics-specific mode they put in their allmode TNCs) are preferable to packet, RTTY and AMTOR if you want reliable communications. Where packet beats these systems is the ability to set up a TNC as an unattended store-and-forward node or digipeater. Packet stations or nodes can support several connections at once and share a frequency where the -TOR modes are keyboard-to-keyboard. Hopefully, someone will work develop HF packet so the throughput is as good as gtor or pactor while keeping the node, digipeat, mailbox and other features.

If you're looking for a TNC for HF-digital, I suggest an all-mode TNC with packet, amtor, rtty, CW, (gtor) and pactor. That way the TNC won't be obsolete next month and you're not stuck with a single digital mode. Many TNC manufacturers will supply upgrades as new modes come into being (remember when there was only CW and RTTY?). Your TNC should also include a mailbox, this is an excellent feature- you can leave the computer off, the TNC and radio on and pick up/forward mail 24 hours. For communications software, I still use an early version of Procomm (a modem comm program).

Procomm or other simple programs do not confuse my disaster volunteers and do not put the TNC into KISS or other modes, or force bizarre parameters into the TNC making it useless for other comm programs.

There are many good digital modes out there and they'll work on QRP and on any band.

73, Jay
WB6AAM
jcoote@aol.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [8303] More on Windoms (long)
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960507105446.25578A@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

A bit long, so if not interested, please delete now.

After my initial discussion of the Windom, I received a few notes, some of which concerned version of the Windom with a virtual drooping wire (a radiating feedline) accompanied by the claim of a lower radiation angle due to the radiation off the vertical radiator (combined with the radiation off the horizontal wire).

I make no absolute claims about such antennas, but will note some difficulties

in finding the claimed performance to result from the combination of horizontal and vertical radiators.

First, the radiation does not result from an imbalance at the feeder-antenna junction. The current does rise on the longer section of the window to a value above that at the feedpoint, and it decreases along the short section away from the feedpoint. That is how it should be, since for any resonant half-wavelength wire, wherever fed, the current distribution is roughly sinusoidal (meaning that 50% away from center, the current is about .707 of its value at the antenna center).

However, the parallel feeders are in series with the antenna at the feedpoint. In modeling, one treats the feedpoint as a point (or the segment fed), but in reality, parallel feeders are about 1" across for 450-ohm line. The current differential across that point is negligible, well less than 1% of the highest current value on the antenna, and hence incapable of adding a significant radiation component.

If the vertical element is to radiate, then it must do so by virtue of induced currents from the horizontal radiator. So I first went to MININEC for some experiments, starting with a 40 meter halfwavelength wire and feeding it both at the center and at the 35% point (measured from one end), about 10.2' out from center. I added a vertical wire not connected to the feedpoint but close (0.01'). ELNEC showed no change in pattern or input impedance (7.37 dBi, 90 + 4 ohms Z). Moreover, the 28-degree takeoff angle did not change. So I connected the wire to the feedpoint junction. (The wire was approximately 1/4 wavelength long, with various lengths tested for maximal effect.) Gain went down (6.26 dBi) and the feedpoint Z went to 73 + 215 ohms, indicating a detuning or loading effect by the element. However, the take-off angle (28 degrees) did not change. Shortening the vertical wire brings the system back toward the initial input impedance and gain, which is what we would expect.

I tried the same experiment with NEC-2. NEC uses the center of a segment (or the whole segment) as the feedpoint, so a direct feedpoint connection could not be made. However, the close proximity experiment could be made, so I added a vertical wire 0.01' from the feedpoint and dropped it about 1/4 wavelength. (Incidentally, NEC shows 7.49 dBi as the gain of the dipole and plain Window, with the Window feedpoint Z as 97 - 15 ohms). NEC showed a gain with this system over the plain window of about 1 3/4 dB, and a feedpoint movement to 65 - 352.5 ohms. However, the takeoff angle remained 28 degrees. (In fact, by lengthening the wire to about 55', the gain climbs to 25.3 dBi, but at a feedpoint Z of 1.6 - 438 ohms. Throughout, the take-off angle was 28 degrees).

The two modeling systems are in disagreement about the gain and feedpoint impedances, at least within the limits of the modeling structures used for these initial tests. However, both systems agree that the take-off angle does not change with the presence of a vertical wire, either closely coupled or

connected to the Windom feedpoint. Incidentally, do not try to build the 25 dBi gain antenna--even if power could be efficiently transferred to it, locating the exact lengths for a real situation, with grass, trees, shrubs, old cars, houses, and the like, would be so finicky that you would end up in an institution trying to find it. And it is not clear whether the gain is real or a phantom of the modeling technique. But if you do make it work, name it after me.

All this study proves is that so far I have found no way to model the claimed lower angle radiation from Windoms with vertical components. It does not prove that the phenomenon does not exist--although many of the explanations for its existence seem a little less plausible after the exercise. I am sure that if you purchase one of these types of antennas and follow the directions carefully, getting it as high and clear as you can, as mechanically and electrically sound as you can, it will perform like a doggone fine half-wave wire at the lowest frequency multiband antenna. I am equally sure that if you take the same pains with a center-fed half-wave wire at the lowest frequency multiband antenna, it will perform very well for you as well. and the centerfed type is good for odd harmonics and WARC bands. Antennas are not magic; rather they are hard work. If Murphy is on vacation, then they perform in direct proportion to the pains you go to in setting them up. If Murphy is on the job, then all bets are off.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: mack@mails.imed.com
Subject: [8316] Network Analyser Adventures
Message-ID: <9604078314.AA831495442@mails.imed.com>

My employer was kind enough to allow me to borrow the vector network analyzer for use at our Houston Area QRP "club" get together this past weekend. It's a neat \$20,000 toy. It will measure 2 terminal devices for magnitude and phase from 100 Hz to 40 MHz and will when requested attempt to calculate any of 5 different equivalent circuits (it's great for matching crystals for filters).

What does all of this have to do with this list? Well, last night, just for grins, I hooked it up to the coax attached to my 40M dipole. It was quite interesting what it showed. (you can do the same thing with an MFJ or Autek but you don't get the pretty graph). The antenna had about 12 resonant points between 3MHz and 30MHz. A resonant point being defined as having zero degrees of phase shift. Sure enough, my antenna was resonant at 7080KHz which is approximately where I

designed it. However, it showed the impedance to be about 142 Ohms! This actually correlates with the SWR I measured of 3:1 for the antenna.

Since I thought the SWR used to be better I took the dummy load (Cantenna) up on the roof and hooked it to the coax. I figured if the coax was defective in some way (it's RG58 intended for indoor network use) this would show it. I got quite a surprise! The phase and the magnitude of the impedance at the transmitter varied sinusoidally across the spectrum! This is due to the mismatch and the length of the coax.

I thought something must be wrong, so I brought the Cantenna back into the shack and connected it with a short (2 ft) piece of coax to the analyser. The reason for the SWR was immediately obvious. The analyser said the Cantenna had a resistance of 46 Ohms with about 6 uH of inductance. There was a cute impedance bump at about 21 MHz and the magnitude of the impedance went up to about 60 Ohms. I measured the DC resistance of the Cantenna and my DVM agrees that it is 46 Ohms!

I had always assumed that my Cantenna was a pretty reliable piece of test equipment but if it was ever really 50 Ohms it isn't now. Does anyone know if the resistor in the Cantenna has a positive temperature coefficient? That might explain why it reads low when dissipating microwatts.

By the way, this originally had transformer oil with PCB's from before we knew better. When I moved, I disposed of the transformer oil since Mayflower didn't want to move it that way. It now has Eckerd Pharmacy brand mineral oil in it. What are the chances that the coolant has lowered the resistance of the element?

I'll have the analyser at home for probably another week before they need it back at work, so if anyone is interested in any more experiments, let me know and I'll report the results back to the group.

I think I'll stop by Radio Shack for a 25W dummy load and see how good it is.

Ray Mack
WD5IFS
mack@mails.imed.com
Friendswood (Houston), TX

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: [8304] OHR 400 for sale
Message-ID: <01I4F4YIBZSY9D5UWN@tntech.edu>

It looks like I will have to sell my OHR 400 \$315 shipped us:

OHR 400, Four Band CW Transceiver

Specifications:

80-40-30-20 meter bands

Receiver
RF pre-amp
Diode ring mixer
selectable AGC-manual gain control
4 pole crystal ladder filter
selectable 4 pole audio filter
very stable VFO
VFO covers 150Khz each band
RIT +/- 1Khz

Transmitter
5 watts+ 20 meters and 30; 8+ 40 meters and 80
adjustable from rear panel 0-full power
smooth QSK circuit
sidetone generator with level adjust
both iambic and manual key jacks
alignment tool is provided with kit

Optional Iambic Keyer kit

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: "Raymond Gretlein" <raymond_gretlein@mi.sparta.com>
Subject: [8333] On the Air At Last
Message-ID: <n1380637218.8052@sulu.mi.sparta.com>

Good day all,

Just had to share my excitement and thanks. Thanks to all on the list for the advice over the last year. I am one of the generally silent subscribers.

I finally made the leap, bought a QRP+ from a list member (and got great help in getting it delivered before I went on vacation...Thanks Jim), got

approvals from my home owners association for a 40 meter inverted V and am now on the air. I have been delighted and surprised at the number of folks who will take the time and effort to copy a WEAKE and slow signal. I had my first CW QSO in 25+ years from a hotel room in Phoenix with nothing but the QRP+, 26 gauge magnet wire wrapped around the ceiling connected to the antenna tuner and a 1/4 wave counterpoise for the ground, and two 6 volt lantern batteries for power. That reached out N0PLV near Kansas City, MO.

Several QSO since from the home QTH. Seems to be a good path between San Diego and WY last couple of nights.

Thanks again for the great information. If any of you hang out in the 40 meter novice area...I'm the slow newcomer around 7110 - 7120 (static/noise is bad much higher).

73,
Ray KE6TYH
QRP-L#536

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Nick Franco <kf2ph@bnl.gov>
Subject: [8329] OOPS!
Message-ID: <318FB622.100E@bnl.gov>

Sorry gang. Guess I misread the PR5000 form which is also listed on the FCC Web server at: <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/vanity.html>

It looked to me that restrictions were being enforced based on call area. Sorry for the band width.

CU on 30m
Nick
--

Nicholas J. Franco <>> BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY
Sr. Systems Specialist RHIC Project - Building 1005 - Room 201
Tel: (516) 344-5467 Fax: (516) 344-3674 UPTON, N.Y. 11973-5000
Email: kf2ph@bnl.gov <http://www.rhichome.bnl.gov/People/franco>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Markus Lenggenger/faselec <M.Lenggenger@zrh.sc.philips.com>
Subject: [8313] PACTOR-2
Message-ID: <9605072039.AA0071@smtp01.zrh.sc.philips.com>

Hi all

My short mail of yesterday brought up several reactions with additional questions. I'll try to answer them here.

The PTC-II modem, to my knowledge the only PACTOR-2 implementation as of today, is available from SCS in Germany for more than a year, and the unofficial PACTOR-2 user list maintained by Alf DF7ML shows a couple of hundred stations in all continents, among them famous BBS stations like WA2MFY and 9K2EC, who are switching from CLOVER to PACTOR-2. The PTC-II can handle CW, RTTY, AMTOR, PACTOR and PACTOR-2. With respect to regular PACTOR, PACTOR-2 features a much increased transfer rate, on-line data compression and improved robustness under weak-signal conditions.

Some time ago I read that PacComm (spelling might be wrong) will start to produce and sell PACTOR-2 modems in the U.S.

Right, the PTC-II is expensive, around 900 USD. But in my opinion it is absolutely worth this price!

Once again I would like to mention the great website of SCS, <http://www.scs-ptc.com>. Take a look and get first-hand info directly from the developers / manufacturers of PACTOR-2.

73, Markus HB9BRJ

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996

From: Mike Czuhajewski <wa8mcq@u1.abs.net>

Subject: [8281] QRP Hall of Fame

Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.960507001921.11206H-100000@u1.abs.net>

It just occurred to me, with all of this Dayton traffic flowing on dayton-l, that I forgot to throw in my two cents worth on the QRP goings-on for this year: The voting for the QRP Hall of Fame (sponsored by the QRP ARCI) is over, the wood (real wood, not fake!) plaques are in my house, and the names of the 1996 inductees will be released publicly at Dayton, at the QRP banquet. In addition to the newbies, I also have plaques for the 1992 inductees, who are Doug DeMaw, Randy Rand, the Rev. George Dobbs, and Roy Lewallen. Who will the new folks be? If you're one of them, you've already been contacted so don't go to Dayton expecting a surprise :-). Just about the only way you can find out in advance who they are will be to get me drunk at the FDIM symposium, but I don't drink so I guess that rules it out! And am I including gqrp-l on this post just to tell you that Rev George is finally getting his plaque, or is there another GRPer joining the QRP Hall of Fame? Ask Rev George when he gets back :-). Sorry, that's the only hint you get for now.

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

wa8mcq@abs.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Art Searle <asearle@netusa.net>
Subject: [8298] QRP+
Message-ID: <318F87B3.38D3@netusa.net>

Subject: QRP++

Hi John & QRP+ Owners on QRP-L

On 5/05/96 John WA0VQR jlock@minn.net wrote:

>2) Listening with a separate receiver, the transmitter's CW note on 80 and
>40 meters sounds fine. However on 20 it sounds a bit chirpy, and by the
>time you get to 10 meters it is quite chirpy. (Not quite C0 (Cuba)
>quality, tho) I was wondering if any of you had checked the TX tone of
>your QRP++, and if so, was it fine on all bands?

Your question got me curious, so I checked out my QRP++. I have adjusted
the output to 4 watts (maximum on all bands), so that's where I tested
it.

10,12,15,30,40,80,160 very good, no chirp, nice note
20 fair, fair note (I wouldn't even call it an 8)
17 very bad (definate 8, maybe 7??)

Thanks for the alert, 72 de Art WU2K art.searle@asb.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: art.searle@asb.com
Subject: [8305] QRP+
Message-ID: <9605071108.0FNE500@asb.com>

Subject: QRP++

Hi John & QRP+ Owners on QRP-L

On 5/05/96 John WA0VQR jlockj@minn.net wrote:

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20 fair, fair note (I wouldn't even call it an 8)
17 very bad (definate 8, maybe 7??)

Thanks for the alert, 72 de Art WU2K art.searle@asb.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Larry East <LVE1@inel.gov>
Subject: [8314] QRP+/QRP++ Comparisons (long)
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960507163523.356fab8e@134.20.32.17>

I assume that there is enough interest in Index Labs. rigs to justify
this long post...

I was able to borrow a New and Improved QRP-PLUS (hereafter referred to as
"QRP++") from a local ham (Rob, WS7U) last weekend and ran some comparison
tests with my modified "original" QRP-PLUS (hereafter referred to as
"QRP+"). I was also able to borrow an IFR-1500 service monitor to use
in getting data on spurious emissions, receiver sensitivity, etc.

I have made a lot of modifications to my QRP+, so some of the comparisons
may not apply to a "stock" QRP+. The mods I have made include:

- Additional grounding and bypassing in an attempt to reduce internal
receiver noise (not sure how successful this has been...).
- Added 22 pF cap across middle inductor in the first mixer LP filter
for better rejection between about 32 and 70 MHz.
- Made the buffer amp between the xtal filter and mixer (transmit path)
resonant at 50 MHz to reduce xmitter spurious emissions.
- Replaced the transmitter LP filters used for 30M through 10M with
elliptical filters to improve harmonic rejection.
- Added an audio limiter to reduce effect of SCAF (Switched Capacitance
Audio Filter) delay on the AGC (infamous "AGC thump problem" on
strong signals).

Other mods have been made for "operational convenience" (such as an LED to indicate when SHIFT or RIT is on, etc.) which should not affect actual performance.

I am writing up all of these mods and they will be published in The QRP Quarterly and available from the QRP-L FTP site and/or WWW home page (one of these days...)

Anyway, on with the comparison with my "Super QRP+" and the "QRP++" (serial number 1353).

Receiver

My general impression is that I do NOT like the receiver on the QRP++ as well as my QRP+. In my opinion, it has WAY too much IF gain which compounds the "AGC thump" and strong adjacent signal leak-trough on narrow settings of the audio filter. However, it is somewhat more sensitive, has less "internal noise" and can do a little better job of pulling in very weak signals on a quiet band. On the other hand, I was able to copy weak SSB signals on a noisy band (75M) slightly better on my QRP+ -- probably due, in retrospect, to my audio limiter clipping the noise peaks.

Anyone who claims that the QRP++ does not have an AGC thump problem on strong signals has either been listening to a dead band or using a rubber duck for an antenna! It is as bad or worse as in a QRP+ (without the audio limiter -- I disabled it for comparison with the QRP++). It is not as severe when the SCAF is at its widest setting, but it is certainly there. The high IF gain of the QRP++ makes the thump much worse on strong signals and also makes the 20dB input attenuator less effective in reducing the thump.

Adjacent strong signal interference when the SCAF is narrowed up for CW operation is worse in the QRP++ than in my QRP+. This an "aliasing" problem in the SCAF and NOT a problem with the receiver front end or IF. The higher IF gain and higher LP filter roll-off in the QRP++ probably both contribute to the problem.

Receiver sensitivity: I attempted to determine the "minimum detectable signal" using the calibrated RF generator in the IFR-1500. By "minimum detectable", I mean a signal that can be clearly heard above receiver noise and could be copied if CW (probably could not be copied if SSB). My somewhat subjective results using a filter width of 0.5 kHz are as follows:

QRP+ (modified) -- Between 0.15 uV and 0.3 uV, depending on band.

Best on 160, 12 and 10M (0.15uV) and worst on 40, 30 and 20M (0.3uV).
About 0.2uV on the other bands.

QRP++ -- 0.1 uV or slightly better on all bands.

I could definitely copy very weak CW signals on 20M better on the QRP++.

S-meter: The S-meter on the QRP++ acted very strangely; it would register zero on all receiver signals below about 15uV and then suddenly jump to S-5 or S-6. This was not a problem with the AGC; output audio level remained very constant for all signal levels above about 1uV. Maybe a malfunction in this particular unit? (The owner balked at me removing boards from his new "pride and joy"...) S-meter sensitivity is also too high in my opinion: S-9 corresponded to input signal levels of 45 to 50 uV on all bands except 80 where it was only 32 uV. On the other hand, my QRP+ requires an input signal level of between 200 uV (160M) and 250 uV (30M on up) for an S-9 reading.

Transmitter

As I am sure you are all aware by now, the QRP++ includes an internal speech processor for "improved" SSB performance (depending on whether or not you like a lot of "audio punch" with that definite "processed" quality). Mike gain and compression level are automatic and cannot be changed without changing component values. The speech processor makes use of an op-amp with an FET in the feedback loop to control the gain; it is similar, in concept at least, to the \$9.00 speech processor kit sold by Ten-Tec. (That's got to be one of the best buys around!). The Ten-Tec kit, by the way, should work well with the QRP+ -- but as an external, NOT internal add-on; I doubt that you could find room for it inside the already pretty full QRP+ box. I did not make any SSB tests on the QRP++ for two reasons: my main interest is CW operation and I did not have the time.

The QRP++ uses an ALC (automatic level control, not be confused with the receiver AGC, automatic gain control) to control the output power on CW as well as SSB. (The QRP+ uses ALC on SSB only). This has the advantage of keeping the output level quite constant from band to band, unlike the QRP+ which can change by as much as 2 or 3 watts between bands. The maximum output power of the QRP++ I tested was about 5.5W on the low bands, dropping to about 5W on 10M.

Keying: First the good news -- the QRP++ can follow an external keyer to at least 42 WPM, whereas an external keyer can't be used above about 28 WPM with the QRP+ (no biggie for me... :-). The bad news is that the keying on the QRP++ is very "hard"; the transmitter output waveform has

a rise time of about 0.5ms and a fall time of less than 0.25ms! However, it did not sound as bad as expected when monitored on another receiver, but there was a definite key-up click. My QRP+, on the other hand, has rise and fall times of about 2.5 ms at 5W out and the keying sounds very clean (none of my mods should have affected keying characteristics.) My QRP+ output rise-time shortens up somewhat at higher power levels, but still sounds clean.

Harmonic output: The FCC requires that spurious output from amateur transmitters operating below 30 MHz be at least 30dB below the carrier for 5W or less carrier output and at least 40dB for greater than 5W output. The three transmitter LP filters used for 30 thru 10 meters in the QRP+ are barely adequate to provide 30dB second harmonic attenuation on 30, 17 and 12M. Index claims that the filters are "quite adequate" and did not change the design for the QRP++. They are perhaps adequate for the QRP++ which (without modifying the ALC circuit) has a maximum output of about 5W. However, most (unmodified) QRP+'s are capable of 7 - 8W out on bands where the harmonic attenuation is likely to be less than 40dB...

Harmonic output measurements made with an IFR-1500's spectrum analyzer are given in the following table. The "Std QRP+" column lists measurements made on my QRP+ before filter modifications, and "Mod QRP+" is after the new filters were installed for 30 through 10M. All measurements were made at 5W carrier output.

Carrier Freq. (Fo)	Harmonic output in dB below Fo					
	QRP++		Std QRP+		Mod QRP+	
	2xFo	3xFo	2xFo	3xFo	2xFo	3xFo
1.820	48	>60	50	>60	52	>60
3.560	55	>60	55	>60	55	>60
7.040	55	>60	52	>60	55	>60
10.116	31	52	34	53	50	>60
14.060	45	>60	50	>60	55	>60
18.070	32	57	40	>60	53	>60
21.060	38	>60	37	>60	48	>60
24.900	33	>60	36	54	58	>60
28.060	38	>60	48	>60	58	>60

Differences between the QRP++ and standard QRP+ are due to component tolerances and relative measurement errors. I estimate my relative measurement errors to be on the order of 3dB.

Spurious emissions other than harmonics: An unmodified QRP+ has several "spurs" that are less than 30dB below the carrier on all bands from 20M on up, but no spurs within 40dB of the carrier on lower bands. The spurs on my modified QRP+ are all more than 40dB down -- except for 12M (see

below). All spurs from the QRP++ were at least 40dB down except for one about 6 MHz below the operating frequency on 10M that was 30dB down, and 12M where spurs were 32 to 36dB down depending on frequency (see below).

12M has a special problem: Mixing products with the second harmonic of the 50 MHz IF can result in spurs very close to the 12M carrier frequency! The mixing products that are of concern are given by:

$$F_o \pm N \times (2 \times IF - (LO + F_o))$$

where:

F_o = carrier frequency = $LO - IF$,
 IF = 50 MHz,
 LO = Local Oscillator frequency,
 N = 1, 2, 3, ...

For example, at a carrier frequency of 24.9 MHz, mixing products can cause spurs at ± 200 kHz, ± 400 kHz, etc. from the carrier (decreasing in amplitude with increasing N).

In my QRP+ running 5W out, the "first order" ($N = 1$) spurs due to this mixing are quite strong; only 28dB down at $F_o = 24.900$ MHz and 15dB down at $F_o = 24.980$ MHz (where the spurs are only 40 kHz from the carrier)! If the output is reduced to 3W, these spurs are 34dB and 20dB below the carrier, respectively. It appears that the strength of these mixing products is related in a very non-linear way to the "carrier injection" level (i.e., the IF signal level). Thus when the carrier injection is reduced to give an output of only 3W, the mixing products are drastically reduced.

In the QRP++ I tested, the situation is much better; the spurs are down 36dB at $F_o = 24.900$ MHz and 32dB at $F_o = 24.980$ MHz (just barely below the "legal limit", but below never-the-less). This improvement is due, apparently, to added gain in the transmitter RF chain resulting in less carrier injection into the mixer for a given transmitter output. An MC1350 amplifier IC is used as the "pre-driver" in the QRP++ and a two stage desecrate amplifier is used in the QRP+. A different mixer is also used in the QRP++ which might also affect the level of the mixing products.

I don't know if my QRP+ is typical or not. I have asked for 12M measurement results from other owners but none have been forth coming; perhaps other QRP+ owners are embarrassed to tell about what they are seeing!

It appears that adding some gain in the QRP+ transmitter would improve the situation. Maybe I can come up with a way to do this without requiring a major redesign effort; in the mean time, I'll keep the power

level at 3W or below on 12M and operate below 24.950 MHz -- if, indeed, I operate on 12M at all!

Nit-Picking Stuff

I don't like the QRP++ S-meter; besides being too sensitive it is harder to read than the one on my rig.

The QRP++ has a slightly smaller tuning knob; I like the old one better.

The QRP++ is supposed to have a varistor to protect the receiver mixer. However, in the rig I tested, there were pads on the RF board (the top one -- I only had to remove the cover to see it Rob!) marked "VR1" but nothing was there. Kinda makes one wonder...

Summary

Good points about the QRP++ relative to an unmodified QRP+:

- It has less receiver noise and greater receiver sensitivity.
- Power output is relatively constant from band to band.
- More "punch" on SSB -- or so I've been told (I haven't heard one on the air).
- Transmitter output is cleaner (but it still suffers from marginal harmonic reduction on some bands).

Things I don't like about the QRP++:

- Its receiver IF gain is too high.
- "Thumping" on strong signals is very severe (could be improved by adding an audio limiter after the filter).
- Strong signal "bleed thru" at narrow filter settings is worse than with a QRP+.
- Keying is too "hard".

Final notes:

It is not my intention to "knock" Index Labs rigs; on the whole they are nice little boxes and pretty much of a bargain compared to other rigs available. However, there can always be improvements -- and Index should REALLY be embarrassed about the 12M spurs!

Judging from comments I have seen on QRP-L, it appears that the QRP++ configuration is in a bit of a flux; problems one owner notes don't seem to be seen by other owners. Hopefully Index will soon get the production kinks worked out and start providing a "reproducible" product.

Am I planning to upgrade my QRP+? Not on your life; I have put too much time and effort into modifications and I don't want to start all over again! Except for the 12M spurs -- which I WILL cure someday -- I like my little rig just fine!

Larry East, W1HUE/7
May 6, 1996

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Subject: [8295] St Louis Tuner balun checks
Message-ID: <960507095112.24a0f625@carib.vf.mmc.com>

Gang,

Obsessive-compulsive creature that I am, I just couldn't pass up the chance to use my Autek RF-1 as I built my St Louis tuner. I wanted to see how well the tuner's balun worked. So I tack soldered resistors across its output and measured the transformed impedance on the other side.

This was the balun transformer itself, not installed in the tuner. In each case the load R was a 1/4 watt carbon comp resistor with short leads. Results were:

SLT Balun Impedance Xfmn vs frequency

Freq.	Load R ->	50 Ohm	200 ohm	330 ohm	470 ohm
1.8 MHz		12	51	84	120
3.5		13	52	86	122
7.0		13	52	87	121
14.0		14	52	87	119
21.0		15	51	84	112
28.0		16	52	84	109

The transformer worked very well indeed to transform the load impedance by 4:1. I'm quite impressed. Of course the readings don't include any loss measurements nor do they indicate how the transformer works with mixed resistive-reactive loads. On the other hand I don't have a fancy network analyzer at home.

I'll write this up along with some more detail as a Joe's Quickie for Mike C to put in his Idea Exchange column in the Quarterly. But for now, I thought some may be interested in seeing how good the balun is.

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

work: jeverhart@cayman.vf.mmc.com
home: n2cx@voicenet.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Mike Connor <mikec@primenet.com>
Subject: [8318] St Louis Tuner Completed
Message-ID: <01BB3BFF.27981C40@mikec.primenet.com>

Gang,

Finished up the St Louis Tuner last night and am very pleased with the way it turned out. Another hamshack treasure.:-)

I printed out the errata sheets that Doug, Bob, and Chuck had posted before starting the kit, made a couple of notes to the manual and jumped right in.

Dougs building instructions were clear and easy to follow with extra tips and nice clear pictures of the important stuff

Assembly was not difficult, although L1 was a lesson in patience and perseverance.:-) Make sure your windings are as close together as you can get them.

Operation is straightforward; if you've ever operated an MFJ tuner this will be very familiar to you. I set the caps to their midway point and turned the inductor to the setting that gave me the most noise to give me a starting point.

I must say that after using a tuner with a single meter for so many years, the separate forward and reflected meters are really nice to have.

I didn't get a chance to try the balanced output yet, but it tuned my 40M dipole on 20,30,40, and 80M with no problems, all on the LOW cap setting.

All in all, a nice versatile piece of gear that works well, and was fun to build.:-)

Kudos to Doug, Jim, Norcal, and the St Louis group for a great effort!

Mike
NQ7K =20

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [8328] TMPS
Message-ID: <199605072137.VAA16346@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Ok gang. Those participating in the Thirty Meter Propagation Study may want to delay posting continuous updates. Just send me weekly stats so that I can see how you are doing.

No use giving the network police something to complain about. :-)

I would appreciate your using the exact outline I have in my signature and no variation thereof, i.e. same number of digits in the same columns with caps and all. Reason: so that I can use grep, awk, and sed to postprocess the data for graphing. Please. Pretty please. It will help a great deal.

I am not the one that is having the problem with the posts. :-)

I'm /6 for the seek and then there is Dayton the week after, so I'm getting behind some of you, but no problem. Did I mention the wind?

OH, pizza at the usual place Thursday night in MtView near behind Two Guys from Italy in MtView on El Camino Real near highway 57 (I think).

6:30 pm. be there

dit dit
--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
K5FO TMPS 1996 Qs=010 States=08 Confirmed=00 DX=01

AZ CO IN MI SD UT WI WY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: km@PACT.ORG.PE (Kris Merschrod)
Subject: [8283] TMPS & Separate list
Message-ID: <m0uGjWs-000TTnC@rcp.net.pe>

Monday 6 MAY & Weekend Report Lima to North America

Sunset My Time (23:00 UTC) through about 02:30 UTC the band starts and then drops out.

At the NW QRP time on Monday (0200 UTC) the QRP QRM was brutal. Seriously! I did not get any response but I copied 1, 5, 7, 8 & 0 area stations signing QRP.

Down on the lower 5 (10.100 - 10.105) there were many stations too. There is a 30 Meter QRO OP here in Lima too - OA4DBP "Max" Also a QRO op in Cuenca (HC5???). Plus in S. Brazil there is PY5CC Peter as a QRO.

The usual hash is heard on 10.106 & 10.120.

Does the band drop out on N-S after 02:30 UTC or do the hams just hit the sack?

SPLITTING OFF THE TMPS Yes. Why should we have to sort through all that other "stuff" when we want to read the 30 meter news?

Kris
OA4DBO

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Nick Franco <kf2ph@bnl.gov>
Subject: [8312] Vanity Call - Info As Requested
Message-ID: <318F75CC.4A00@bnl.gov>

Yesterday, someone from our list emailed me and asked about vanity call signs and regional area restrictions. Sorry for the list bandwidth, but I deleted the original message and now have the reply.

I read the form 610V last night. There is the normal regional area restrictions when applying for a vanity call sign. In other words, you have to request the numeral within your mailing address region for your

new vanity callsign. UNLESS: you fall under one of the exemptions to this rule where you are applying for a call previously owned by you or the callsign of a deceased relative, etc. Or the callsign of a deceased member of a club to be used for the club vanity.

Other than this - you are restricted to the call area of your mailing address when requesting a vanity call within your appropriate gate.

Hope this benefits more than just the original requestor. If not, SRI.
72

Nick

--

Nicholas J. Franco <>> BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY
Sr. Systems Specialist RHIC Project - Building 1005 - Room 201
Tel: (516) 344-5467 Fax: (516) 344-3674 UPTON, N.Y. 11973-5000
Email: kf2ph@bnl.gov <http://www.rhichome.bnl.gov/People/franco>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: STEVE STUNTZ <STUNTZ@wapa.GOV>
Subject: [8322] WAS awards question
Message-ID: <s18f563f.030@wapa.GOV>

What is the lowest power level ever used to acheive a Worked All States award?

DE NOBF Stephen Stuntz Stuntz@WAPA.GOV

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM (Pete Rossi)
Subject: [8337] Re: 30m Spam
Message-ID: <9605080200.AA03176@gvlf6-a>

->Man: Morning.

->Waitress: Morning.

->M: Well, what you got?

->W: Well, there's egg and bacon; egg, sausage and bacon; egg and 30m;
-> egg, bacon and 30m; egg, bacon, sausage and 30m; 30m, bacon,
-> sausage and 30m; 30m, egg, 30m, 30m, bacon and 30m; 30m,
-> sausage, 30m, 30m, 30m, bacon, 30m, tomato and 30m; 30m, 30m,
-> 30m, egg and 30m; (vikings start singing in background) 30m, 30m,
-> 30m, 30m, 30m, 30m, baked beans, 30m, 30m, 30m and 30m.

You guys are sick! :-) .. but don't stop :)

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA
rossi@vfl.paramax.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)
Subject: [8297] Re: ANNOUNCE: QRP 2m Freq ??
Message-ID: <199605071419.HAA16520@netcom22.netcom.com>

>CQC@aol.com writes
>>146.445 simplex. Great frequency choice, Dave!
>>
>>I'll be there sometime Wednesday afternoon or evening and I'll check for the
>>location if I am late.
>>
>>CU on 146.445 (Dayton QRP simplex frequency?)
>
>
>Is this the 'official' qrp gang freq ???
>

I chose that frequency because it is the non-official QRP calling frequency here in the Denver, Colorado area...

I knew I would be too lazy to adjust the HT, so I wanted to pick a freq where that would not be necessary ;-)

I don't believe there had been any prior mention of a 2M freq at Dayton for QRP'ers.

73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Subject: [8285] Re: Clem-Neff Enterprises
Message-ID: <960507073735.24a0f625@carib.vf.mmc.com>

David,

Thanks for the directions. I'll have to try to get up there one of these days. My younger son is a high school junior so I suspect we'll be looking at

colleges all over the east coast this summer. May get to your neck of the woods during the effort and I can check out the "Barn."

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: "C. J. Hawley" <c-hawley@uiuc.edu>
Subject: [8288] Re: Dayton Wx Forecast
Message-ID: <318F4101.534@uiuc.edu>

Doug,

It would be my guess that we could have 60's and cloudy to 80's and sunny. I am going to bring shorts and short sleeves and jeans and long sleeves. And a good windbreaker rain jacket that I hope to leave in the car. It is possible to have 90's in May in the midwest, but I don't think that it's going to happen this year. We are still having a lot of rain and a high of 60's to 80's with a one week cycle.

Chuck, KE9UW
Urbana, Illinois

(People who move to Riverside from here find it boring there after a year or so)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: [8290] Re: Dayton Wx Forecast
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960507053003.2905A-100000@crl3.crl.com>

RAIN always RAIN

On Mon, 6 May 1996, Doug Hendricks wrote:

> Anybody got a weather report for Dayton for the Hamvention? I am
> interested as I don't subscribe to Dayton-L, and I am going to attend.
> I need this information to plan on the clothes I need to take. CU
> There! 72, Doug, KI6DS
>
>
>

>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Steve.Hideg.1@nd.edu (Steve Hideg)
Subject: [8291] Re: Dayton Wx Forecast
Message-ID: <v02130508adb4f47b1679@[129.74.35.16]>

Folks,

Those of you Dayton aficionados who have web browsers can check out the Dayton weather links on the Dayton info page at the QRP-L Resource Page:

<<http://qrp.cc.nd.edu/QRP-L/index.html>>

Follow the blinking Dayton information link.

Steve Hideg Macintosh Consultant/Analyst

Office of Information Technologies Telephone: (219) 631-3926
University of Notre Dame URL: <http://www.nd.edu/~shideg/>

Taco Bell - We're *NOT* the Mexican telephone company!

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: [8293] Re: folded dipoles from 300 ohm twin lead
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960507055633.9315A-1000000@crl5.crl.com>

John I use folded dipoles made from 450 ohm open line. They work very well not any better than or worst than a regular dipole. The dipole with the extend wire at the end; I expect that was a coaxial dipole known as a BAZOOKA. The are made from coax (RG-58)with twin lead (300 ohm) ends. These work very well on 80 meters as the tuning is very broad. I worked all states on 75 SSB with one of these up about 30 ft.

To build you break the shield at the center and feed it with coax.
Typical lengths as follows. Always trim to you operating frequency.

3750 khz Total Length 118.08'
 Coax center 87.65'
 Twin Lead ends 15.22' each

7150 khz Total Length 61.93'
 Coax center 45.41'
 Twin Lead ends 8.26' each

This antenna like the g5rv will have many say it does not work.. Lot of myth about it's origin. Try it , you might like it. Nice low SWR across the 80 meter band.

de stan ak0b

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [8340] Re: folded dipoles from 300 ohm twin lead
Message-ID: <960507232246_530524062@emout10.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-05-07 08:41:49 EDT, jmckee@rfmd.com (John Mckee) writes:

>Gang,
>
>Does anyone out there use a folded dipole made from 300 ohm twin
>lead? Am I correct to shorten the dipole length by the velocity factor
>of the twin lead? Also, I have seen descriptions of folded dipoles with
>extra wire pig tails on the ends to extend to antenna back to the full
>length.
>Is this necessary? Is this type of antenna sensitive to detuning from
>nearby objects like house wiring or metal gutters?
>
>Thanks and 72,
>John WB4OFT

I'll add my two cents worth..

I've also heard about folded dipoles which could be connected directly to a 50-ohm coax feeder of any length. (Some might use a 50:50 ohm balun here, or bead balun) The trick appears to be getting the length of the 300 feeder so that the 300 ohms at the antenna is "transformed" to a non-reactive 50 ohms at the coax connection (balun). Of course this is a monoband design.

There was a more complicated version of this antenna, complete with shorting stubs on the dipole, capacitors on the 300-ohm feedline and so forth... but

the folded dipole I heard about had no shorting stubs, capacitors or other kluge, just a direct (or balun) connection to a tuned feeder. The idea make sense in several ways: 300-ohm TV line is cheaper and lighter than coax-good for field use?

73, Jay
WB6AAM
jcoote@aol.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: David Werner <aa9ol@execpc.com>
Subject: [8327] Re: FS: Linear Amp for QRP rigs...
Message-ID: <318FB5E5.37A1@execpc.com>

The Yaesu FT110 has been sold.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Art Searle <asearle@netusa.net>
Subject: [8300] Re: Help me pick a rig
Message-ID: <318F88A0.1129@netusa.net>

Subject: Re: Help me pick a rig

Hi Daniel,

On 05/06/96 you wrote:

> I am about to buy me a rig which I hope will be good for QRP also. I am
> looking at:-
> ICOM
> IC-728
> IC-706
> Kenwood
> TS-450SAT
> TS-50
>
> I can also get others too. I'd like to hear your
advise.

How about a Yaesu FT-900CAT with a Collins mechanical SSB filter and an optional
Collings mechanical CW filter. I have an FT-900AT and I think it's a

great radio. You
can also adjust output power down to QRP with no mods.

72, de Art WU2K

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: art.searle@asb.com
Subject: [8307] Re: Help Pick a Rig
Message-ID: <9605071108.0FNH500@asb.com>

Subject: Re: Help me pick a rig

Hi Daniel,

On 05/06/96 you wrote:

>I am about to buy me a rig which I hope will be good for QRP also. I am
>looking at:-

>ICOM

>IC-728

>IC-706

>Kenwood

>TS-450SAT

>TS-50

>

>I can also get others too. I'd like to hear your advise.

How about a Yaesu FT-900CAT with a Collins mechanical SSB filter and an optional
Collings mechanical CW filter. I have an FT-900AT and I think it's a great
radio. You
can also adjust output power down to QRP with no mods.

72, de Art WU2K

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Brian Dockter <brian@nds.com>
Subject: [8315] Re: House building and coax
Message-ID: <96May7.095152pdt.171963-215+244@rainier.nds.com>

On May 7, 10:49am, Robsparks@aol.com wrote:

> Subject: House building and coax

>
> For the fellow who is currently building a house and wants ideas of what
> wires to run before the walls close up:
>
> I found myself in this situation, too. So many choices to make that I could
> not make them all! What I finally did was to drill 1" holes in strategic
> headers in the attic and run heavy nylon cord through these holes and through
> the walls to plastic outlet boxes in likely radio areas. These extra boxes
> were blanked off till needed. This has turned out to be one of the few
> smart things that I did when I built my house. I can now pull any kind of
> wire to and from the attic from my shack area.

Another possibility (a more expensive one though :-) is to run conduit.
That way if you run out of nylon cords, you can easily run a snake to
pull any wires you need.

72,

Brian

--

Brian Dockter	(KC7JZL)	Email: brian@nds.com
Sr. Software Engineer		Voice: 206-524-0014
Northwest Digital Systems		FAX: 206-524-3440

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: QLF@mimi@magic.itg.ti.com
Subject: [8319] re: HOUSE BUILDING AND COAX
Message-ID: <9605071813.AA13904@itg.ti.com>

From: Brad Bradfield QLF

Subj: re: HOUSE BUILDING AND COAX

When I added a new master bedroom and den onto my house in 1988, I dropped 3/4" conduit (plastic) into the walls to an empty handy box and covered it with a blank plate. This was done in a couple places and was primarily to bring two-meter coax into the rooms.

A couple years later I converted 3/4 of my garage to a ham shack. Thinking that I may never have another chance to build a hamshack from scratch, I decided to go all the way. In the wall next to my operating position, I dropped two pieces of 2-1/2" plastic conduit from the attic into an antenna patch panel built into the wall. On the other side of the room where my work

bench is, I dropped another piece of 2-1/2" conduit into a smaller patch panel. This supports antenna trunk lines to the main patch panel. Now if I can just figure out how to get my several pieces of 7/8" Heliax through this I'll be in business.

I ran 3/8" copper tubing from both patch panels through the walls, through the outside wall to terminate in an eight foot ground rod.

Even though I don't have an amplifier or anything else requiring 240 VAC, I ran two dummy 240 VAC circuits into the shack as well, "just in case." It was cheaper and easier to do it at the time than to try and fish 10 AWG Romex through the wall later.

Since I did all the addition and remodeling myself, I had plenty of time to run the conduit I wanted, along with TV antenna feed line, etc. The problem with doing this in a house built by a builder, is that they usually don't want to waste time waiting for you to run your conduit and coax before they start putting up sheetrock. You'd have to work fast, but you could probably work a deal with the builder to let you do it.

Hope these suggestions help.

73's

Brad, WB0CGH

```
*****
Brad Bradfield, PE                               Electrical Design Engineer
(H) 817-321-2960                                Texas Instruments, Inc.
(W) 214-462-6230
*****
```

QLF@MSG.TI.COM

WB0CGH@W05H.#DFW.TX.USA.NA

ARRL Life Member QRP-L #377 SMIRK #4906 IEEE(M) ARS #72

Collector of wireless and landline Morse keys and accessories.

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*****
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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996

From: N5EM@aol.com

Subject: [8324] Re: House building and coax

Message-ID: <960507161520_392898443@emout10.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-05-07 14:58:05 EDT, you write:

>I found myself in this situation, too. So many choices to make that I could
>not make them all! What I finally did was to drill 1" holes in strategic

>headers in the attic and run heavy nylon cord through these holes and through
>the walls to plastic outlet boxes in likely radio areas. These extra boxes
>were blanked off till needed.

Gang,

While thinking about cable in new homes when the walls are exposed, don't forget phones and LAN cable. Don't laugh. You never have enough phone outlets and you will probably want to network a couple of computers in your house. You know. You get the nice neat new color printer and the kid is always wanting to use YOUR computer to print his/her nice, neat color stuff. Let'em use the LAN. With Windows 3.11, 95, NT, etc. its pretty cheap to do it. It's easy not. It's a bear later.

And, BTW, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, run your stuff in plastic pipe, and after the sheetrock goes up. I can PERSONALLY assure you, there is nothing more frustrating than having the foresight to run nice phone cables to everywhere you want them, only to have the sheetrockers drive nails through them when they install their wallboard.

On second thought, I guess it would be worse if they drove nails through a piece of 9913 I put in for my radio :-(

See you there! (if you have to ask, I'm sorry)

Ed, N5EM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Kevin Muenzler <wb5rue@amsat.org>
Subject: [8325] RE: Last call for badges
Message-ID: <01I4FGYI1HT40000ER@ARWEN.UTHSCSA.EDU>

On Tuesday, May 07, 1996 3:05 PM, PDouglas12@aol.com wrote:

>Forgive the bandwidth, QRP-Lers, but this is the last call for Dayton QRP-L
>badges, and I thought you wouldn't mind one last message--last year you had
>to put up with dozens!

>

>For those who have missed the announcements on Dayton-L, ID badges for
>Dayton-going QRP-L subscribers will be available for pick up at the at the
>hospitality booth at the Days Inn S. and during convention hours at theG-QRP
>booth, courtesy our friends from across the pond. Email me by tomorrow if
>you want one. List closes Weds, 5/7/96.

>

>72, Preston WJ2V

>

>

badges?!? We don't need no stinking badges!!
Sorry I just couldn't resist!

Kevin, WB5RUE
wb5rue@amsat.org

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: QLF%mimi@magic.itg.ti.com
Subject: [8292] Re: NE QRP AField, Sept. 21, 1996
Message-ID: <9605071307.AA00918@itg.ti.com>

From: Brad Bradfield QLF

Subj: Re: NE QRP AField, Sept. 21, 1996

Yeah, but if we went with bordellos, the guys in Nevada would have more than a little advantage.

73's

Brad

-***** ORIGINAL MSG RECEIVED ON 05/06/96 AT 19:17 FOLLOWS *****-

Jay Miller wrote:

> Dear Fellow QRP Enthusists,
> OK, from the majority of the notes, on QRP-L, a theme is definitely a
> plus and from those of You, from New England, it looks like Light
> Towers, (except Pat Taber, he wants to operate in a Lawyer, good luck
> Pat, no bonus points ;-) & Universities). Several had expressed an
> interest in Maritime Mobile operation, plus several from old
> farms/historical sites.

How about bordellos? That way when the bands fold up...
I won't even elaborate on my ideas for bonus points but can you imagine
the postings after the event?

72,
Marty, W00Q

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: "Dana H. Myers" <myers@bigboy.West.Sun.COM>
Subject: [8331] Re: 00PS!
Message-ID: <Roam.3.0.831506817.12886.myers@bigboy>

Nick wrote:

> Sorry gang. Guess I misread the PR5000 form which is also listed on the
> FCC Web server at: <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/vanity.html>
>
> It looked to me that restrictions were being enforced based on call
> area. Sorry for the band width.

Actually, according to the web page mentioned above, there are some restrictions. If your mailing address is in the contiguous 48 states, then you are restricted to calls in regions 1-10 (i.e., the calls assigned to the contiguous 48 states). If your mailing address is in one of the outlying states or territories, you are restricted to the 48 states and whatever region your mailing address is in.

Formerly held calls are not subject to this restriction.

I've already figured out which call I want.

Dana

* Dana H. Myers KK6JQ, DoD#: j	Views expressed here are mine and should	*
* (310) 348-6043	not be interpreted or represented as	*
* Dana.Myers@West.Sun.Com	those of Sun Microsystems, Inc.	*

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: "Ahlgren Jukka (NTC/BS-OU)" <Ahlgren@ncsbsr02ou.ntc.nokia.com>
Subject: [8286] Re: Separate lists, etc.
Message-ID: <318F660C@ncsbsr01ou.ntc.nokia.com>

>SPLITTING OFF THE TMPS Yes. Why should we have to sort through all
>that other "stuff" when we want to read the 30 meter news?
>
>Kris
>0A4DB0
>

Folks!

I've been on this great list for a couple of months and I use the delete key when I see a subject, which is not of my interests.

My personal opinion is, that there is no use separating different topics into their own lists.

What if we had separate lists for 40-9er/Sierra/NE4040/QRP+/ users, 30m fans, 10m fans, cw, ssb, antennas, digital, fox, QTTF, TMPS, acronyms, I-might-be-an-engineers....

A lot of small groups with the same old boring stories from month to month.

I find many different and interesting topics from this list.

I haven't been doing qrp for years, but right now I'm planning to get on the air with a couple of homebrew rigs. I just finished a dc receiver for 80/40m ("The Explorer" from 73 Aug '92) and just now building a NE 30-40 xcvr for 30m. I also have a 2 watt tx for 40m and a my next plan is a 40-9er. Unfortunately, I can't take part in US Field days, but luckily we have one in Finland this summer and that is my first target. So, mail with a field day subject goes to the wastebasket by the delete key.

By the way, if I build a 40-9er with all the modifications published, can I still call it a 40-9er? (Hi)

73, Jukka OH6SC/8

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996

From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>

Subject: [8296] Re: Separate lists, etc.

Message-ID: <199605071407.HAA03835@dancris.com>

At 02:59 PM 5/7/96 EET, you wrote:

>

>

>>SPLITTING OFF THE TMPS Yes. Why should we have to sort through all
>>that other "stuff" when we want to read the 30 meter news?

>>

>>Kris

>>0A4DB0

>>

Why split? If everyone agreed to keep the notes to a single subject within, it might be feasible, but I find lots of nuggets within messages that have

to do with other things than indicated in the subject line. I can scan the text and see if there is anything there that catches my eye, and, if not, move on.

Excepting, of course, Dayton weather :)

73,

Bob KI7MN NorCal 1221 ARCI 8918 Qrp-1 271 ARRL (Not in any order of importance!)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996

From: bfollett@ditell.com

Subject: [8302] Re: St Louis Tuner and the Cascade

Message-ID: <199605071453.IAA02121@orion.ditell.com>

Harry:

On the Cascade, you can make a "spot tune" real easy by unbalancing the TX Mixer, U2. You do that by putting a 10K ohm resistor between pin 1 and ground.

John L. the designer, told me that they were going to put this feature into the rig, but they were trying to keep complexity down. I used it for tune-up purposes, much better than "blowing into the mike". To wire it in permanently, I suspect you should use a shielded cable to the external s/w you would add to activate the unbalancing.

Any of you Cascade builders that are tweaking your xmit section, if you don't try this method of generating output, you are making life hard for yourself.

73, Bob

Bob Follett WA7FCU, QRP-L # 129, NorCal, ARCI, 10-10

2861 Estates Dr. VOICE: 801.649.6457

Park City, UT 84060 Home Office E-mail: bfollett.ditell.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996

From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logiccraft.com>

Subject: [8294] Re: Suggestion

Message-ID: <199605071328.JAA99416@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>Since a lot of you folks will be doing your best to work the world on 30M
>this summer, how about starting your own mail reflector for comparing notes,
>bragging about conquests, etc.? Sure would cut down on the amount traffic

```
>going to the other 400 - 500 of us on QRP-L... :o)
>
```

Cool. We've gotten to the point where we don't want to read about QRP operation on the QRP reflector, huh? We've moved to an "all off-topic all the time" format? I guess we qualify to become a usenet newsgroup now....

>>>==>PStJTT

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=====
Patrick Taber                               Email: ptaber@logiccraft.com
Principal Software Engineer                 Phone: (603) 880-0300
Logiccraft Information Services             Fax:   (603) 880-7229
22 Cotton Road
Nashua N.H. 03063
KC1TD    TMPS 1996 Qs=000  States=00  Confirmed=00  DX=00
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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: "Richard Hieber" <Richard.Hieber@rrze.uni-erlangen.de>
Subject: [8284] Re: The Next Digital ORP Mode:
Message-ID: <177A4621EBD@isis.rrze.uni-erlangen.de>

Hi Marv,

On Sun, 05 May 1996, muphaus@cris.com (Marv Uphaus) wrote:

> Is anyone on the list doing QRP with any other digital modes (besides
> CW)...??? There was a VERY interesting article in QST a few years back
> about how to use a PK-232 with an automatic power feedback circuit...

this morning (in fact it's only two hours) I ordered a PTC-II Pactor controller, developed and manufactured by the German company SCS (the inventors of the PACTOR protocol). Power cutback is an _integral part_ of this protocol. Check out their web page (<http://www.scs-ptc.com> ... quoted from memory), you'll find plenty of info. They claim to have had a contact between a German station and an Australian _mobile_ station with only sixteen milliwatts of power! Links are maintainable with signal levels down to 18dB into the noise - absolutely inaudible for human ears.

I'm all excited and can't wait to get it. This controller, together with a QRP+ and an Olivetti Quaderno XT palmtop computer is my QRP dream station. The QRP+ consumes abt 130mA in receive, the PTC-II takes roundabout 300mA at 12 Volts (not bad for a Motorola 68360 processor plus a highpowered DSP at 60 MHz!), the XT with V30

processor will need perhaps 100 or 200 milliamps with the HD shut off.

So, 600 mA all in all. The portable power station with the 7Ah gel cell will support that setup for a few hours, I guess. I plan to purchase one or two 5-watt solar modules which will extend that timespan considerably. A dipole antenna will do fine, but for some serious QRP DXing I'll better finish the portable cubicle quad project that I was talking about last year.

Right now the controller does PACTOR-II, PACTOR-I, AMTOR, RTTY, CW (eeek! but I am curious ;). Additional packet radio modules (1200Bd and 9k6) will be available in two months (Ham Radio 96 in Friedrichshafen). If you go to Dayton, check the PACTOR forum there. Dr. Tom Rink from SCS apparently will participate in a question and answer round. The next firmware upgrade (comes at _no_ cost! user uploadable into flash EEPROM) will bring FAX and Packet capabilities. SSTV is planned for the future.

The hitch is (didn't you guess that already), it ain't cheap: DM 1490,- which is about 1000 Dollars. And this time, for once, _you_ guyz_ over there stateside will be at the wrong end of the import tax.

Building my QRP dream station. So many projects, so little time. Not to speak of money...

72 from Germany,
Richard

--

Richard Hieber, DL8MFQ/AA8CP
EMAIL: Richard.Hieber@rrze.uni-erlangen.de

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
Subject: [8335] Re: TMPS
Message-ID: <199605080139.SAA07197@dancris.com>

At 09:37 PM 5/7/96 GMT, you wrote:
>Reason: so that I can use grep, awk, and sed

Did you write this, or have you been reading too much of Nils' stuff(:^)?
73,

Bob NorCal #1228, ARCI #8918, Qrp-1 #271

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Roger Hightower <aa7qy@dancris.com>
Subject: [8321] Re: Vanity Call - Info As Requested
Message-ID: <199605071924.MAA05540@dancris.com>

At 12:09 PM 5/7/96 -0400, Nick Franco wrote:

>Yesterday, someone from our list emailed me and asked about vanity
>callsigns and regional area restrictions. Sorry for the list bandwidth,
>but I deleted the original message and now have the reply.

>

>I read the form 610V last night. There is the normal regional area
>restrictions when applying for a vanity call sign. In other words, you
>have to request the numeral within your mailing address region for your
>new vanity callsign. UNLESS: you fall under one of the exemptions to
>this rule where you are applying for a call previously owned by you or
>the callsign of a deceased relative, etc. Or the callsign of a deceased
>member of a club to be used for the club vanity.

>

>Other than this - you are restricted to the call area of your mailing
>address when requesting a vanity call within your appropriate gate.

>

Sorry, Nick. The Vanity callsign system was set up to allow anyone to
select (request)
a callsign from ANY call district. Read some of the historical stuff at
ARRL or FCC web sites.

There was a request for reconsideration of the rule, but the FCC decided
that there was
already enough confusion with callsign holders living in a district other
than their call
indicated, so the request was denied. Another reason was that restricting
the requests
to the "home" call area would limit the choices one would have.

72/73, de Roger AA7QY

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Kevin Muenzler <wb5rue@amsat.org>
Subject: [8326] RE: WAS awards question
Message-ID: <01I4FH0RUR1S00000ER@ARWEN.UTHSCSA.EDU>

On Tuesday, May 07, 1996 2:58 PM, STEVE STUNTZ[SMTP:STUNTZ@wapa.GOV] wrote:
>What is the lowest power level ever used to acheive a Worked All States
>award?

>

>DE N0BF Stephen Stuntz Stuntz@WAPA.GOV

>

>

>

The only distiction for power level for WAS is QRP. QRP has its normal definition of less than five watts. For more "official" information you can send mail to "contest@arrl.org"

Kevin, WB5RUE
wb5rue@amsat.org

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: herr@ridgecrest.ca.us (Michael Herr)
Subject: [8320] Re: Wisdom? - New home constr
Message-ID: <v01530500adb6408b3c46@[199.120.150.115]>

Craig,

You might consider putting in a dipole in the attic while you can easily get to it. Make it out of heavy material if possible.

I would also add a couple runs of good quality 9913, heavy 12 volt power and control lines into the attic, someplace where you have room. You might consider a small amateur radio satellite array in the attic. Certainly the RS birds would be a snap and with Phase 3D, look out. The 12 volt lines would be for amplifiers (5 watts guys) and the control lines for rotors and remote tuners.

72

Mike WA6ARA

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue May 7 22:47:39 1996
From: Craig LaBarge <74740.3166@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [8332] Re: Wisdom? - New home constr.
Message-ID: <960507221505_74740.3166_EHB56-1@CompuServe.COM>

[My apologies if this is a dupe. Had an error on my last attempt.]

Cameron, KT3A, wrote:

> Craig, WB3GCK, what about resonant rain gutters?!

It can be done. I've heard of folks who inserted a small section of vinyl gutter as a center insulator and fed it like a dipole. Too much work for me. My gutter/downspout is tuned like a random wire in an inverted L configuration. Works great on several bands. Given my druthers, I would have used vinyl gutters and run a wire through it. I think that would make the results more predictable than having to rely on the joints between sections of aluminum gutters.

With new construction, they often use foam insulation panels with aluminum foil backing for a vapor barrier. Depending on how your gutters are configured, it could make the gutters less attractive as an option. In my case, it would have been disastrous.

Indoor/low-profile antenna users have all sorts of things to worry about. My house has a flat roof and was due to be coated. The roofer who did my house and several of my neighbors as a package deal was pushing a coating that had aluminum in it. I almost blew my cover by discussing my concerns about RF attenuation with the contractor. :-) I told him that I had an antenna for my FM stereo up in the crawl space (true, but not my biggest concern) and was concerned about signal loss. The contractor contacted the manufacturer of the coating who said they had never thought about RF attenuation, but didn't think it would be a problem. So, I decided to go ahead with it. I was a nervous wreck until I got on the radio and found out that it really didn't make a difference. Turns out that the surface resistivity of the coating when cured is very high, making it a very poor shield. Whew! Was I relieved! Even my indoor 2 meter antenna worked fine.

Although my gutter has been very, very good to me, if I were you, I'd concentrate on the attic antennas. In my case, my attic is a very small crawl space which is barely accessible. Someday, I'll figure out how to stuff some wire up there.

Good luck,

73, Craig WB3GCK

P.S. Mike, AA0UB, and I are going to try for a 2-way QRP gutter-to-gutter QSO this week. If you fire up your gutter, maybe we can start a weekly net...the Gutterballers!